

Response to 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection of Claims 1-9

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Guo *et al.* (EP Pat. No. 1 219 702). Applicants traverse the rejection and have amended claim 1. Guo *et al.* does not teach detergent compositions, polymer neutralization before granulating or low hygroscopicity, only polymers useful for preparing multi-functional pellet additives. Applicants submit the invention as presented herein is patentable over Guo *et al.* of record.

Response to 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) Rejection of Claims 1-9

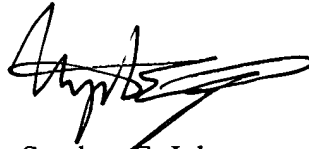
Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Guo *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,492,320). Applicants traverse the rejection and have amended claim 1. Guo *et al.* does not teach detergent compositions, polymer neutralization before granulating or low hygroscopicity, only polymers useful for preparing multi-functional pellet additives. Applicants submit the invention as presented herein is patentable over Guo *et al.* of record.

Double Patenting Rejection of Claims 1-9

Applicants provisionally traverse the rejection and will deal with the issue at the time of allowance of the pending claims.

Please charge any fees associated with this response to Deposit Account No. 18-1850. Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned to discuss any issues related to this application by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen E. Johnson', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

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December 7, 2005